



PRESS RELEASE

*Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida*

PAUL I. PEREZ
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

400 North Tampa Street
Suite 3200
Tampa, Florida 33602
813/274-6000
813/274-6300 (Fax)

Post Office Box 600
200 West Forsyth Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32201
904/232-2682
904/232-2620 (Fax)

80 North Hughey Avenue,
Room 201
Orlando, Florida 32801
407/648-7500
407/648-7643 (Fax)

2110 First Street,
Suite 3-137
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
239/461-2200
239/461-2219 (Fax)

Contact: Steve Cole ♦ Public Affairs Specialist ♦ 813/274-6352

For Immediate Release

January 22, 2003

**TAMPA TEACHER ARRESTED FOR AND CHARGED
WITH DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

Keith Lee Leonard, age 28, of Dunedin, Florida, was arrested early this morning in connection with an investigation involving the distribution of child pornography in interstate commerce through the use of computers. Mr. Leonard appeared in the United States District Court in Tampa, Florida this afternoon and was charged in a criminal complaint alleging distribution of child pornography in interstate commerce, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A.

In an affidavit filed with the court in support of the complaint, it was alleged that Federal Bureau of Investigation agents in Buffalo, New York, Tucson, Arizona, and Calverton, Maryland downloaded images involving minor children engaged in sexually explicit conduct from a computer F-serve operated by an individual using the screen name "BabyXtrade." The investigation traced the "BabyXtrade" screenname to the house in which Leonard resides.

Leonard was recently hired as a teacher with the Broach School of Tampa. As part of the conditions of his bail, Leonard is required to terminate his employment at the school.

In addition, Leonard was placed on home detention, ordered to wear an electronic monitor at all times, and not to have any contact with minors. He was also required to execute a \$50,000 signature bond.

Violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A carry a maximum penalty of fifteen years' imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

The case is being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation Innocent Images Task Force and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Dennis I. Moore of the General Crimes Section of the United States Attorney's Office.

A criminal complaint is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of federal criminal laws. Every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

/ / / / /